

**City of Milpitas**  
**Unapproved Minutes**  
**Telecommunications Commission**  
**October 18, 2004**

**I. Call to Order & Roll Call:**

Telecommunications Commission Chair Albert Alcorn called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Albert Alcorn, N. Gupta,  
G. Ali-Santosa, W. Lam, P. Peterson, I. Munir

I.S. Staff: B. Marion, E. Pasion City Council: A. Gomez

Members Absent: R. Gopalara, P. Gupta, A. Ettinger,  
D. Gupta, V. Mathur

**II. Pledge of Allegiance:**

The members of the Commission recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Announcements:**

No announcements were made for the record.

**IV. Approval of the Agenda:**

Chair Alcorn requested that agenda item number 1 be separated into two items for discussion. Item 1 discussing the broadband over power line issues and item 1A discussing review of the electromagnetic spectrum and its associated uses by various communications industries for private, commercial and governmental ventures.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

M/S N. Gupta / I. Munir Ayes: 6

**V. Approval of the Minutes  
September 20, 2004**

Motion to approve the minutes as submitted.

M/S N. Gupta / G. Alisantosa Ayes: 6

**VI. Citizen's Forum**

No comments made for the record.

**VII. Continued-New Business:**

**1. Broadband Interference Discussion.**

Staff introduced Bill Dale with the Milpitas ARES-RACES amateur radio operators group.

Mr. Dale presented to the Commission an in-depth report on the impacts of a new communications technology called Broadband over Power Line (BPL).

Mr. Dale provided detailed information on how BPL technology is delivered over existing power lines. He demonstrated that the BPL technology would greatly impact the radio transmissions of amateur radio operators when this service is in use. He reported on the efforts made at the federal level of allowing the use of BPL in rural areas to provide high-speed Internet access at the cost of degrading the radio transmission of amateur radio operators.

To date there have been only short-term testing of the BPL services along the peninsula and there seems to be no attempt to introduce the service to the bay area. However, municipalities such as Santa Clara and Palo Alto, that operate their own power services, could consider this another means of generating revenue.

Motion to note, receipt and file and advise the City Council of any future installation of Broadband over Power Line technology and its impacts to the amateur radio operators' community.

M/S N. Gupta/P. Peterson Ayes: 6

#### 1A. Electromagnetic Spectrum.

Chair Alcorn presented to the Commission an overview of the existing electromagnetic frequency spectrum and its current uses by various communications industries.

Governmental, commercial and private industries have used various sections of the spectrum for communications purposed whether it is for radio communications or for commercial television satellite services. The chart presented a very detail and densely populated frequency spectrum of numerous operators and services that also include amateur radio operators.

Motion to note, receipt and file.

M/S N. Gupta/P. Peterson Ayes: 6

#### 2. December 2004 Meeting Schedule.

Staff reported to the Commission the opportunity to reschedule or cancel its December 20 meeting to accommodate the group's activity schedule for the month.

Chair Alcorn agreed with the report adding that in the event that any special review of documents or hearings are needed that the December meeting should be cancelled to the January 24, 2005 meeting.

Staff has informed the Planning Department and reported that there were no requests to install telecommunications antennas for the next two months in the Milpitas area.

Motion to cancel the December 20 meeting on the condition that any special needs be considered.

M/S N. Gupta/D. Gupta Ayes: 6

3. Subcommittee Report Cable Policy.

Commissioner Alisantosa reported status quo on the cable policy review by the city attorney's office.

Staff will report back at November's commission meeting on the review process as well.

Motion to note, receipt and file.

M/S N. Gupta/P. Peterson Ayes: 6

4. Status Report of Comcast Cable Franchise

Bill Marion, Director of Information Services, reported that the City continues to review and discussion outstanding matter regarding the cable television franchise with Comcast.

The City is currently requesting information on how Comcast reports its financial data.

In terms of supporting public, educational and government access channels, Comcast has stated that it is interested in establishing channels in the Milpitas. It is currently reviewing the request to operate a public and educational channel from the Milpitas unified school district office buildings.

Motion to note receipt and file

M/S N. Gupta/D. Gupta Ayes: 6

5. September '04 Month Report.

The conversion all the police department vehicles from it current CDPD 19.2 kbps to 1XRT 140 kbps service is nearing completion.

Mobile computers are also being installed in all fire apparatus vehicles and should be completed by the end of the year. Currently, I S staff has completed installation of all police mobile units.

Staff noted that it would migrate the services over to the Tropos 802.11b network in the near future.

An invitation was made to the Commission to a demonstration of one of the fire department's mobile communications display terminals currently being tested for deployment. Information services technical staff is currently installing and testing various fire department vehicles with new communications dispatching equipment similar to the systems installed to the police department vehicles.

Motion to note receipt and file.

M/S N. Gupta/D. Gupta Ayes: 6

Round table discussion.

No items of discussion were made for the record.

### **VIII. Adjournment of Meeting**

Chair Alcorn adjourned the meeting to Monday, November 15, 2004.

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